

W. C. T. U. Column.



Through the courtesy of the **REGISTER** this space is granted to the **W. C. T. U.** It is edited by **MARTHA J. FRANCIS**, Local Press Superintendent, as appointed by the State Organizer, **Mrs. L. LaMance**.

W. C. T. U. WATCHWORDS:
ORGANIZE! EDUCATE! AGITATE!

W. C. T. U. PRINCIPLES:
Total Abstinence; Prohibition of the Liquor Traffic; One Standard of Morals for Men and Women; Home Protection; Equal Suffrage; and the Teaching of Scientific Temperance in Public Schools.

Texas.

After many conflicting reports, it turns out at last that Texas, in its recent primary election, voted in favor of the measure to submit the question of saloon or no saloon to a direct vote of the people. It is now for the legislature to provide for the people having a voice upon the subject. Texas has shown itself more democratic than the legislators of Louisiana will permit the latter State to be. These legislators, afraid that no-license would prevail, refused to let the people have a voice in the matter. The people will be heard from before long.

Business Against Liquor.

Senator Hynes, speaking of a petition for the passage of the county option bill which was lately made a law in Ohio, he said:

"Here's something that's got teeth in it. It's signed by fifty manufacturing and wholesale firms in the city of Springfield, asking the legislature to pass the Rose bill. All the big employing concerns in the city are there. Just look at the list; there's all the weight of Springfield's prosperity behind that paper."

"Now, here," said I, "I want you to tell why these people signed that. Was it the moral argument that got them, or was it business?"

"Business absolutely," answered the Senator.

"Specify a little, won't you? Just what are the considerations which make a manufacturer want the saloons suppressed?"

"Well, there are four different reasons I have heard them mention. To begin with, every firm is visited on an average of once a week, I should say, by some poor woman who comes to ask why her husband can't be paid living wages, so the family can get enough to eat. The factory people in almost all the cases find the husband has lied to the wife about his wages; he's been holding back a part, and that part he's been spending at the saloons. No man with a heart in him can endure that annoyance long and feel good over it."

"Then there is the annoyance of trouble among the workmen—fights in the factory. When such things are investigated, it always appears that one or both of the fighters were drunk. And the fights generally occur in the afternoon, after the men have filled up on beer at the noon intermission in the nasty little saloons that crowd around every factory."

"The loss of time on Monday morning is another reason. There isn't a factory in the city with which it is not a common experience to open up Monday morning with too small a force to operate. A great lot of the men are still sleeping off their debauches of Saturday night and Sunday. A good many who do not report are not fit to work."

"And the last reason is, the loss which every factory suffers through having imperfect goods turned back by customers."

How He Got His Money Out.

The following conversation is reported to us as having taken place recently in a saloon located in one of the counties of Ohio where it is an open secret that a county election will be held early in the fall.

The saloonkeeper and John were discussing the issue, until finally John, an Irishman, said:

"Yes, Benjie, I'm going to vote dry next fall."

Ben—"Now, John, I think you are joking. You are two good a friend of mine to want to put me out of business. Just think—I have been here twenty years, and have all the money I have made I have put into this business; how am I going to get my money out?"

John—"Well, Ben, I have been here twenty years, and all the money I have made I have put into this business; how am I going to get my money out of it?"

The amazing thing in life is the absolute folly of young men as to alcoholic drink. Boys of eighteen and twenty play with beer and gin as if an army of four hundred thousand drunks was not marching to death every year. That is the truth. These boys are the recruits. The only safety is in absolute abstinence. No boy

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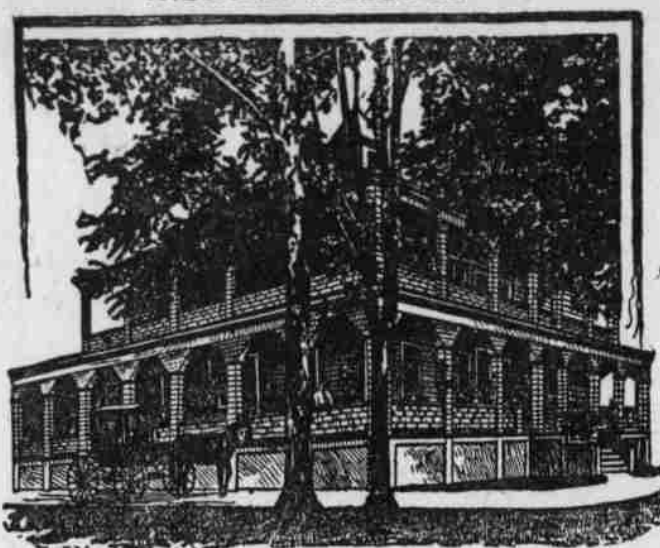
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